

## Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EUR/SE:HEKIRBY

APPROVED BY EUR:MR. STABLER

EUR/SE:WEAGLETON

PM:MR. NIEMI (INFO)

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R 282225Z AUG 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 189420

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, IT, TU

SUBJECT: PROPOSED SALE TO TURKEY OF ITALIAN-MADE F-104'S

REF: (A) STATE 183768

(B) ROME 11559

1. TURKISH AMBASSADOR ESENBEL CALLED ON EUR ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY STABLER AUGUST 26 ON INSTRUCTIONS TO PRESENT AIDE MEMOIRE REQUESTING THAT U.S. APPROVE ITALIAN SALE TO TURKEY OF SQUADRON OF F-104'S. OPERATIVE PORTION OF AIDE MEMOIRE FOLLOWS:

,THE U.S. GOVERNMENT IS KINDLY REQUESTED TO INDICATE TO THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT THAT,

A) THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WILL GRANT THE AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SALE AND TRANSFER OF F-104 S AIRCRAFT TO TURKEY UNDER THE AFORE-SAID ARRANGEMENT;

B) IT WILL NOT, UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES, LAY EMBARGO ON DELIVERIES OF THE AIRCRAFT IN QUESTION TO TURKEY.

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THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE GREATLY IF

THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WOULD LEND ITS ASSISTANCE DURING NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE MANUFACTURER COMPANIES, ON MATTERS SUCH AS COST, DELIVERY SCHEDULES, PAYMENT CONDITIONS, ETC."

2. ESENBEL EXPLAINED THAT TURKS SEEK ASSURANCE THAT IF U.S. APPROVES SALE IT WILL NOT LATER BLOCK SHIPMENT OF

AIRCRAFT FOR ANY REASON BECAUSE THEY WOULD NOT LIKE TO THINK THAT THE RESULT OF LABORIOUS NEGOTIATIONS MIGHT BE UNDONE AT SOME SUBSEQUENT TIME BEFORE DELIVERIES COMPLETED.

3. STABLER THANKED AMBASSADOR FOR INFORMING U.S.G. OF TURKISH INTEREST IN PURCHASING AIRCRAFT, AND SAID U.S. WOULD IMMEDIATELY BEGIN INFORMAL CONSIDERATION OF POINTS RAISED IN AIDE MEMOIRE. HE SAID US WILL STUDY MATTER MORE FORMALLY ONLY AFTER HEARING FROM ITALIAN GOVERNMENT THAT IT HAS AUTHORIZED AERITALIA TO MAKE SALE. STABLER POINTED OUT THAT IF G.O.I DOES NOT AUTHORIZE SALE, U.S. APPROVAL OF THIRD-COUNTRY TRANSFER WOULD BE MEANINGLESS.

4. IT IS DEPARTMENT'S UNDERSTANDING THAT G.O.I AND G.O.T. HAVE BEEN DISCUSSING FOR SOME TIME SUCH DETAILS OF PROPOSED SALE AS COST AND DELIVERY. WE HAD HEARD INFORMALLY THAT TURKS FINDING F-104 S EXPENSIVE AND THAT THEY WERE UNCERTAIN ABOUT WHETHER TO PAY CASH OR RELY ON ITALIAN-ARRANGED FINANCING. HOWEVER, AIDE MEMOIRE REPRESENTS FIRST REQUEST FOR U.S. ASSISTANCE THAT WE ARE AWARE OF. ALTHOUGH ESENBEL MENTIONED LAST PORTION OF AIDE MEMOIRE QUOTED IN PARA 1 ABOVE IN HIS ORAL PRESENTATION, HE AND STABLER DID NOT DISCUSS THIS TURKISH REQUEST FOR U.S. ASSISTANCE WITH NEGOTIATIONS. AT FIRST BLUSH, IT SEEMS TO DEPARTMENT THAT THIS IS NOT A TRANSACTION IN WHICH U.S. NEEDS TO BECOME INVOLVED -- APART FROM ADDRESSING AT APPROPRIATE TIME QUESTION OF WHETHER TO APPROVE THIRD-COUNTRY SALE -- ESPECIALLY SINCE WE HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN LED TO BELIEVE THAT ITALIANS AND TURKS HAD REACHED BASIC AGREEMENT ON TERMS AND THAT IT WAS SIMPLY A MATTER OF NEGOTIATING FINAL DETAILS. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** martinml  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**TAGS:** MASS, IT, TU, US  
**To:** ANKARA  
**Type:** TE  
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